





Nundle, the township of the Hanging Rock and Peel River diggings, is situated at the junction of the Oakenville Creek with the Peel River, and consists of three public-houses, two of them being large and well built establishments, with stores connected with

The small amount of the charge for salaries and wages cannot fail to be remarked in looking over the foregoing figures. As might be expected, and as is

The Ladies' committee meet every Tuesday and Friday at the institution, and are, we believe, very regular in their attendance. The public are invited to send work to the Refuge and to apply for servants from it. The latter are, however, not allowed without the consent of the committee, to take service or employment of any kind in Sydney, or in any populous town, as it is considered that the most entire separation from their former associates is essential to their permanent reformation. Every necessary information can be obtained by application to the matron, at the Refuge.

C. S.

Mr. Lake was present at the court-martial upon Gordon, and took notes of the evidence. He said that the prisoner's defence lasted over an hour, and that the president was careful in taking down every word he said. "I am not sure," he said, "that the president understood, so that the president could follow him, and this was the reason the defence lasted so long. Gordon was subjected to a great many indignities. Witness saw him as the police were taking him away. A sailor in a blanket, a sailor came and said, 'Who is your son of a—?' Is he a white man or a black man? A Frenchman?' Holding up a cat before his face, they said, 'Would you like to have a cat?' and then they said, 'Would you like to have a cat?' and then they said, 'You will have not long to remain here. The trial began at 2 or 3 o'clock, and lasted fully four hours and a half. Mr. Turrey was the witness. He said that Gordon had a patient's pass. Witness said he did not. Gordon was interrupted in the latter part of his speech by the president, who said, 'That closes your defence.' To which Gordon replied that he had not yet finished—Mr. Maule

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THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD. MONDAY MAY 21 1886

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**MONDAY, MAY 21, 1866.**

**GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, SYDNEY.**  
Magnetic Variation (1869), 1° 13' E. Declination, 10° 17' N. Shows the true magnetic bearing of objects from the Magnetic Scale, 155 feet.  
The Time Ball dropped daily (Standard accepted), at 12 p.m. Sydney Mean Time, or 2h. 52m. 15s. A.M., Greenwich Mean Time.

**METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.**  
Barometer reduced to 32° Fahr., and Mean Sea Level. Force of Wind, estimated by the force of flag. Velocity of wind indicated in miles per hour. Humidity and evaporation, measured in inches, per square foot. Direction, 6 to 100.  
Scales of Clouds, &c., 0 to 10.

**CLOUDS, &c.,**  
**MAY 18TH, 1866, CIVIL RECORDING.**

Hour,	Baromet-	Tempera- ture in shade.	Humi- dity.	Wind, Direc- tion.	Force.	Vene- ration, by flag.	Ther- mome- ter.	Bells.	Over- cast.
A.M. 9	29.53	57.5	54	N.N.W.	1-5	16	0	0	5.0
" 10	29.58	58.5	51	N.W.	1-1	15	7	7	5.0
Mean	29.56	58.1	52.5		1-2	16	3.5	3.5	5.0

Evaporation, 24 hours..... 0.115  
FALL-BAROMETER THERMOMETER.

Time.	Baromet.	Thermom.	Wet bulb.
Maximum .....	29.58	58.5	54.0
Minimum .....	29.53	57.5	51.0
Mean .....	29.56	58.1	52.5

**COMPARISON OF STATIONS.**  
**MAY 19TH, 1866, CIVIL RECORDING.**

Station.	At 9 A.M.				For 24 hrs pre- vious to 9 a.m.				
	Baromet.	Tempera- ture in shade.	Humi- dity.	Wind, Direc- tion.	Force.	Ther- mome- ter.	Wet bulb.	Minimu- um shade.	Rain.
STURKEY	29.602	58.2	55	W.	1-5	62.5	54.4	0	0
GATTON	29.581	60.1	77	W.	10-00	63.0	57.0	0	0
CHANDLER	29.720	61.0	77	W.	10-00	63.0	57.0	0	0.40
NEWCASTLE	29.735	61.0	67	N.W.N.W.	9-00	63.0	57.0	0	0
THE RIVER	29.735	61.0	67	N.W.N.W.	9-00	63.0	57.0	0	0
DELSHIRE	29.720	61.0	67	N.W.N.W.	9-00	63.0	57.0	0	0
ALBERT	29.720	61.0	67	N.W.N.W.	9-00	63.0	57.0	0	0
GAFFNEY	29.720	61.0	67	N.W.N.W.	9-00	63.0	57.0	0	0

Gatton, barometer reading is corrected to 32° Fahrenheit, but not to mean sea level.  
Line interrupted.

D.R. B. SNAPEY, Government Astronomer.

**DIARY.**

1866.	Sun.	High Water at Fort Denison.					
Mo.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	
21	Monday	22	23	24	25	26	27

Moons.—New, 1st, 12h. 32m.; Full, 23rd, 11h. 23m. p.m.

**The Sydney Morning Herald.**

**MONDAY, MAY 21, 1866.**

WE have probably now all we are likely to learn of the causes of that calamity which two months ago produced sorrow and sympathy so deep and universal,—the loss of the London. The conflict of evidence, as well as the different standard by which its value is estimated, has given to the discussions a most perplexing character and an uncertain import. There are, however, numerous facts always connected with these calamities upon which different minds will fasten, and as there is no mathematical line by which their value can be measured, the conclusions accepted will be almost as various as the persons who judge. We certainly have no intention to speak slightly of the nautical profession, because those who, like ourselves, have to spell their way in the conflict of opinion become conscious of the haste with which it is often given, and the narrow ground upon several points which received more illustration, and upon which the public mind will settle at last into something like unity. The ship was clearly unfit for the service. Whatever examples may be furnished of vessels having some of her peculiarities in build, or furnished with similar appliances, it will still remain the fixed conclusion of those who have suffered loss of friends, that the vessel had passed through sufficient tests to prove that she was unfit for her work, and that her safety would be compromised whenever she should be exposed to great trials. The question is not whether a vessel can live in smooth water, or encounter ordinary weather, or even occasionally pass unscathed through storms and dangers, but whether she is well constructed and made of preparation she is fitted as well as ships can be in the present state of science, for so long, and in some seasons, so perilous a voyage.

The manner in which the inquiry was conducted seems to have left everywhere an impression of insufficiency. Some consider that favour has been shown to the owners by the suppression of truth; others that the forms of the Court precluded a more searching scrutiny; others have found refuge in that contradiction of witnesses on whose testimony some startling facts depend, by which their whole testimony has been undervalued and shaken. There will, however, still remain with the Australian public the sad impression that a scrutiny into the causes of such disasters is not conducted with efficiency, and does not afford that measure of satisfaction, much rather than which results from a knowledge of the whole truth. There is something absurd in the idea that the dead should be sheltered from reproach by silence on such occasions. The character of Captain MARTIN would not suffer in its general aspect by the proof that he had lost presence of mind, or that he found himself on board a ship which he could not manage. A man may do wrong, grievous wrong, in such circumstances, and his failure of judgment may involve the lives of hundreds of people, and yet no one would attach to the censure anything like a dark reproach on his memory, or lose sight of him other qualities which might distinguish him. It is, indeed, sad to have to condemn a worthy man, whether living or dead, but in such cases to screen the captain from reproach may be also a convenient shelter for those who without committing risk were under similar moral responsibility.

Although a part of the Press is evidently much indisposed to admit any blame to the owners of the vessel, the discussion in Parliament has led to almost a common conviction that the finding of the Court is upon an erroneous case, and that a much nearer approximation to truth could have been obtained had not the Court itself been deficient in powers and obstructed by the rules imposed on its proceedings. No one, indeed, has suggested what better plan can be secured, and we fear that it is more easy to murmur at the course of such inquiries than to provide a more equitable plan. It is not so much that the opinions of the Court that will have weight with the public, but the mode of its proceedings might if they were characterized by wise rules which judicial practice has shown to be best capable of eliciting the truth. It matters but little that a Court pronounces the loss of the ship a sheer accident or the result of mistakes; but it is of great moment that on what grounds they arrive at that conclusion should be absolutely and fully known. We can all draw our conclusions, and assuming equal professional knowledge, do so with as much safety as the gentlemen who are invested with the authority to pronounce an opinion; but we cannot arrive at any satisfaction if in the forms of the Court and in the mode of conducting its business there is an obvious incompetency to ascertain the truth. These points have been deeply felt, and we imagine that, if possible, some better method will be taken. Probably it would be an improvement were

There is a double hearing and were the initiatory proceedings strictly preliminary. We daily observe how this suspension of a final judgment tends to the purification of evidence, to the clearing of opinion, and to the establishment of justice and right. But when a Court sits immediately after the accident, and a heap of witnesses are brought up without any means of ascertaining the value of their testimony, a decision is thereupon pronounced, and the case remains arbitrary, erroneous, even when it is intended, as we believe it most commonly is, to be just.

The recovery of some of those letters which under the awful circumstances of the wreck were penned by those who afterwards perished, has only intensified the feeling of doubt and the bitterness of regret. Nothing more affecting is found in the history of shipwrecks than, taking all in all, may be gleaned from the various incidents connected with this disaster. It is impossible not to be moved by those sketches of heart agony or pious resignation, the apprehension of instant death, or to sympathize in the contagion of that common grief which the parents feel who have before their eyes the bereavement of the widow and the orphans. The resolution of the upper and the lower powers will be cherished in the natural eloquence of many grief will be cherished by those who have received them as most precious treasures; and it is pleasant to find that even in the relief that they were sacrificed from accidents which might have been avoided, there is no passion or invective, but that the utterance of complaint is toned down by a resigned and useful spirit.

The thorough change in the weather will be acceptable to the country generally. For pastoral purposes the rain is not so valuable as it would have been a couple of months ago. Except in warm situations the season is too late for much nutritious grass to spring up, and the frosts that are to be expected will nip that does grow. Still there will be some, and a little is better than none at all. There will at my rate be the aspect of a little verdure. The appearance of barrenness which has overspread a large part of our territory of late has had a discouraging and depressing influence on all who have had daily to witness it. It will be a grateful change to see the soil look moist and green, and signs of herbage begin to disclose themselves. There will also be an abundance of water to drink both for man and for beast. In many places water had become so scarce that nothing fit for household use was obtainable. What little there was had become muddy or foul with decayed animal or vegetable matter. In some instances water-courses have had to be carefully watched to prevent the slightest diminution of the precious supply. The quorrals we read of in Scripture and the herdsman of ABRAHAM and the herdsmen of Lox for the use of certain wells have been amply reproduced in this distant age and under somewhat similar pastoral conditions of life.

It is probable enough that the cold weather setting in contemporaneously with the wet will prove fatal to a large quantity of stock, especially to cattle, which do not stand a drought so well as sheep do, and which on many runs have become very emaciated. We have not yet advanced far enough in civilisation to provide night shelter for any of our stock, and in ordinary seasons they do not require it in this usually mild climate. But the cold is more severely felt by animals in an impoverished condition, and destitute of the ordinary amount of vitality. It has generally been found that changes such as we are now experiencing have aimed the herds by clearing off all of weakly constitutions. The drought, in fact, has already effected something in that way, and the cold that will follow will do little more. This is Nature's method of culling the animal creation, and it certainly has the advantage of taking the weakest and leaving the strongest. This decimation, coupled with the pretty considerable destruction of the usual annual increase, will make our pastoral industry pretty stationary this year. We cannot expect the statistical returns to show any augmentation. With a succession of favourable seasons, the numbers can mount up very rapidly, and at present prices and with the passion for stocking new country, this increase could have taken place if the fates had not been diverse. It will take place, however, in coming years, and the pastoral property of Australia will reach a total that will make the present meagre stock small. The capabilities of our resources are at present but very partially developed.

The change in the weather will probably tend also to an improvement in the public health, as well as beasts have suffered from the recent weather. The summer has been unusually prolonged, but the mildness has been by no means favourable to the general health. From the interior of the colony particularly, where the severity of the drought has been most felt, the complaints of sickness have been constant, and the mortality has been unusually large. Some of this may have been due to the drinking of wholesome water, and even to the eating of wholesome meat, for prime meat has been difficult to get; but it would seem more probably attributable to the weather. We understand at present too little of the variable variations in the character of the atmosphere to be able to notice and record them, and to explain their effects on the constitution. But the recurrences of recent years into the presence and absence of ozone and into electrical discharges of the atmosphere show how wide a field of discovery is opening in that quarter. It is not in the power of man to control the varied and far-reaching forces which affect the changes of the atmosphere, but it may be in his power to detect and tabulate them, and to provide safeguards against all influences injurious to the health of man. It is the prerogative of science to find out all the facts and the laws of the physical universe, and to show how to adapt man to nature, seeing that nature cannot be controlled by man.

Poets sing about eternal summer and about the happy haunts where storms never age, and men prose experience of life is in fact of the same kind. Science purify the earth and the changes of seasons had a beneficial influence on the human frame. So much is this the case that in common language unseasonable weather is synonymous with unhealthy weather. Summer is good in its place, but if it is prolonged too far into the months that ought to be marked by wintry winds, the mildness is sure to be found unfavourable to health.

The change in the weather will be very valuable to agriculturists, some of whom were most beginning to despair for this season. Rain enough has probably fallen for immediate purposes. More, doubtless, will be wanted soon, and the drying wind will soon lick up the traces of superficial moisture. But the traces of summer and severity will become possible for all who reside on their land, and who are in a position to set to work at once. There are a good many, of course, who do not reside on

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LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

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**BELL'S CHAMBERS.**—Those elegant newly erected BUILDINGS (nearly complete), situate in Pitt-street, adjoining Mort's passage, leading into George-street, will be LET, in Suites or Single Offices. They are most suitable for the legal profession.

**FURNISHED APARTMENTS,** Parlour and Bed-room, communicating, use of kitchen and bath; no other lodgers. Near William-street. For address inquire at Opera House Hotel, Castlereagh-street.

**N**ORTH SHORE.—To LET, that comfortable Family RESIDENCE, now in the occupation of J. M. Lee, pleasantly situated in Union-street, containing 10 rooms, 2 closets, kitchen, bath, and a good water laid on: possession on the 1st June. For further information apply to K. M. Sayers, Campbell's Wharf, or North Street.

**S**TORES to LET, in New Pitt-street. Apply to J. F. Hilly, Esq., Pitt-street.

**S**UPERIOR Board and Residence at Mrs. Leach's, WYNDHAM-square West, three doors from Petty's Hall.

**T**O LET, 6-roomed House, Redfern-street, Belfast. Mrs. McIntosh, Clipperton-street, Clippindale.

**T**O LET, small House, in Westworth-place. Apply at 5, Bigh-street.

**T**O LET, a HOUSE, of six rooms and kitchen, Brisbane-street, off South Head Road.

**T**HE LET, COTTAGES, at Runcetter's Bay—1 and 5 rooms. Apply at Dover House, 75, 114, 116.

**T**O LET, a pleasantly situated eight-roomed HOUSE, with a Bath and Dressing Room, and a good water laid on: possession on the 1st June. For further information apply to K. M. Sayers, Campbell's Wharf, or North Street.

**T**O LET, that commodious **HOUSE**, 2, Jamieson-street, next DUK of Austraalia. J. C. F. Peters, Manager, passage.

**T**O LET, a Furnished **BEDROOM**, with view of harbour; 7aper week. 11, Stanley-street.

**T**O LET, a good **SHOP**, Office, or Warehouse, 281, Market-street, opposite School of Arts, 21 week.

**T**O LET, Nos. 7, and 8, Burdick-terrace, Holy Park, Home-bush, and 251, Market-street, Broomfield-st.

**T**O LET, Alexandra House, Woolloomooloo-street, near Palmer-street. Mr. Burdick, Macquarie-street.

**T**O LET, first-class **SHOPS**, Burdick-terrace, William-street. Mr. Burdick, Macquarie-street.

**T**O LET, **SHOPS**, Burdick-colonnade, South Head Hotel. Mr. Burdick, Macquarie-street.

**T**O LET, the Prince of Wales Shales **HOTEL**, Pitt entrance, Opera House. Mr. Burdick, Macquarie-street.

**T**O BE LET or SOLD, at Barrow, rented **GUTTA**GE and Premises. Apply to Mr. Saunders.

**T**O LET, comfortable 6-roomed **HOUSE**, No. 1, Raphael's-building, Prince-street; low rent.

**T**O LET a **HOUSE** in Forest-street, 6 rooms and 1 bath. W. Langan, 15, Hey-st., Woolloomooloo.

**T**O LET, a **SHOP** in George-street, fixtures, gas fittings, &c. Apply 281, Market-street.

**T**O LET, near town, **HOUSE**, eight rooms and latr., pleasantly situated, view frontage. 52, Market-street.

**T**O LET, the **THEATRE ROYAL**, Dundell. Address West's Marble Warehouse, Durneen, Otago.

**T**O LET, the **DWELLING HOUSE**, in Upper Fenton-street, recently occupied by Mr. J. G. Macdonald.

**TO LET**, part of a handsomely furnished House, with or without board and attendance, in a desirable situation. W. P. Woolcott, Exchange-corner.

**TO LET,** a large **SHOP** or **STORE**, with commodious stable and yard. Apply on the premises, St. Peter's, to H. Booth.

**TO LET,** a **PORTION** of those spacious **PREMISES** adjoining the Oriental Hotel, Circular Quay for a term of years or such period as may be agreed upon. Apply C. Higgins, No. 1. Pitt-street.

**T**O LET, Denison HOUSE, Kingston Estate, containing hall, 5 rooms, kitchen, pantry, &c., situated within two minutes' walk of the Railway Station; rent, £15. Apply to F. E. Kishworth, No. 401, Gt. Street.

**T**O LET SHOP and CELLARS, 117, Pitt street, opposite Vickers's buildings, at present occupied by R. Lamb and Co., with every convenience for parties in the wine and spirit business. Immediate possession; rent low.

**TO BE LET, PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, AUCKLAND;** well stocked with scenes, properties, &c., &c., and gas-fittings complete. Apply to S. Jones, Auckland.

**TO BE LET, the BILLY BLUE'S INN,** at North Shore; has undergone thorough repairs, and is well adapted for a Grocery or Drapery Store; low rent to a good tenant.

**TO BE LET, the HOUSE, No. 3, Lyons-terrace, lately occupied by John Tait, Esq. ; immediate possession can be given. Apply to Messrs. Bilyard and Curtis, 32, Hunter-street.**

**TO LET**, at Ashfield, a large and a small **COTTAGE**, close to the station; also a small **Cottage** at Kingston, close to the Newtown station. J. H. Nixon, 27, Elizabeth-street.

**TO LET,** a comfortable veranahah cottage, in Wemyss-street, Stanmore; good garden and use of large paddock. Immediate possession. Apply on the premises.

**TO LET,** a first-class FAMILY RESIDENCE in Lower Port-street, opposite Flavell's-buildings; immediate possession can be given. For particulars apply

**TO LET,** first-class business PREMISES, 208, Pitt-street, (Shew. 50) set. with electric light; also new

**T**O LET, on building lease for a term of years, that valuable plot of GROUND opposite the Money Order Office, Wynyard-square, at a very low rent. Apply to Raphael.

**TO LET**, No. 3, Twickenham-terrace, St. James's road, Newington, 6 rooms, kitchen, &c.; situation very healthy and pleasant; good yard and water; near Railway Station and omnibuses. Apply W. T. Angus, on premises; or 183, Castle-reagh-street.

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**TO BE LET**, those convenient PREMISES, in Pitt-street, near Bathurst-street, at present occupied by

**TO LET,** with immediate possession, the **VICTORIA BRIDGE INN**, **River Ferry**, for any term to suit purchasers, from three to ten years.

The house contains nine rooms, detached kitchen and

The yard, which is spacious, has granary and stabling for seven horses.

The garden, from its situation, is second to none in quality, being the banks of the Nepan; together with a small farm, having a frontage to the Nepan River. The stock in trade—household furniture, &c.—may be taken at

The position of the premises is well worthy of notice, being in close proximity to the extended Eau Railway Station. The house is in full trade, and the reason for letting the premises is, the proprietress is about leaving the colony. Application may be made on the premises, or to Mr. F. O. Wascoe, Pilgrim Inn, on or before **TUESDAY, May 2nd** instant, at 10 o'clock a.m.

**W** HITTELL'S HOUSES, Bathurst-street, 10a to 30a  
Water, gas, blinds, and every comfort.

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SYDNEY MAIL  
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John Davis, 9, Market-street, between Kent and Surrey  
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P. Davey, opposite National School, Paddington.  
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E. Ramsay, grocer, Main-street.  
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 W. Hogan, tobacconist, King-street East.

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